Review of agricultural research

335. DR. MANMOHAN SINGH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the state of agricultural research in India has recently been reviewed by a review committee of the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR);

(b) if so, what are the major findings of the review committee; and

(c) the action contempleted by Government to revamp the agricultural research system in the light of the recommendations of the review committee?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) As at Statement. [Refer to the Statement appended to the answer to Unstarred Question No. 329(b) to (d)]

(c) The recommendations are being processed for placing before Agriculture Minister for decision as deemed fit.

Foodgrains to drought affected States

336. SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether on 28th December, 2002 the Centre announced drought relief of over nine lakh tonne of foodgrains, free of cost to six affected States for the next three months *i.e.* December, 2002, January and February, 2003;

(b) if so, what was the total quantity released to Andhra Pradesh and five other States;

(c) what are the total need of the States particularly of Andhra Pradesh;

(d) what criteria was followed in allocating the foodgrains to affected States; and

(e) whether Government have received the report of full utilization of foodgrains from the States?